

# AASHTO/FHWA Climate Change Workshop

GDOT Board Room, 4<sup>th</sup> floor

March 30, 2010

The following notes are from the breakout sessions, which were designed to brainstorm ideas for how an agency can incorporate climate adaptation into everyday business strategies. The brainstorming exercise consisted of four categories: the first group was communications and staffing, the second was TDM, VMT, land use, and transit, the third group was operations, construction, and maintenance, and the final group consisted of other ideas to assist agencies in developing a climate adaptation action plan.

- Communication and Staffing ideas:
  - Communicate more effectively with decision makers, within the transportation industry.
  - EPA Outreach
  - Workshops
  - Include climate adaptation in the STIP public involvement
  - Get all involved agencies (MPO's, FHWA, EPA, EPD, GDOT, etc) coordinated before attempting public outreach
  - Document current programs, which involve climate adaptation
  - Show fiscal advantages of addressing climate adaptation
  - Use a broader message
- TDM, VMT, Land Use, and Transit ideas:
  - Catalog current programs (i.e. Rideshare, LCI, CAC, etc.)
  - Evaluate current policies that discourage bike and pedestrian travel modes
  - Increase downtown parking fees
  - Expand funding for transit
  - Renew land use focus in urban/metro areas
  - Use Land Use testing in transportation models
  - Silver buckshot
  - Focus resources on most effective strategies
  - Establish a timeline of climate adaptation impacts
  - Pay attention to conflicting strategies
- Operations, Construction, and Maintenance ideas:
  - Install emission reducing equipment for off-road equipment
  - Encourage use of local materials, include incentives in contracts
  - Continue exploring WMA

- Explore variable speed limits
- Continue traffic signal upgrades, focus on regionally significant corridors
- Continue implementing roundabouts
- Solar panels for lighting
- Revisit alternative fuel vehicles in the future
- Plug in capability at Park and Ride lots
- Determine system vulnerabilities
- Minimize diesel idling
- Discuss Savannah port issues and accessibility, also look into dredging schedule
- Add climate change to the NEPA document
- Manage future capacity
- Expand emission testing
- Increase wildfire detection
- Increase fog detection
- Other ideas
  - Timber harvesting/CO2 sequestering during ROW phase
  - Explore energy savings with buildings
  - Facilitate E-85 thru logo program
  - Partner with weather agencies and utilize TV to advise the public on science of climate change
  - Manage assets with climate considerations
  - Eco driving education campaign (especially for public agency employees)
  - Document existing efforts
  - Begin considering climate change measures for future efforts
  - Share info/ideas with local governments, MPO's set up forums and councils
  - Rail Road vulnerability
  - Increase telework and alternative work week opportunities
  - Redefine 100 year flood plan